# CITY OF WEST DES MOINES STAFF REPORT COMMUNICATION

Meeting Date: September 11, 2023

ITEM: Picket Fence Communities 2023, Northeast corner of S. 88<sup>th</sup> Street and Mills Civic Parkway – Approve a Preliminary Plat to create 1 lot for Multi Family Residential and 7 lots for Single Family Residential and approve a Site Plan to allow construction of 236 multi-family dwellings – PFC WDM, LLC – PPSP-006109-2023

Resolution: Approval of Preliminary Plat and Site Plan

**Background:** Brent Culp with Snyder and Associates, Inc., on behalf of the applicant and property owner, PFC WDM, LLC, request approval of a Preliminary Plat for the approximately 22.8-acre property generally located at the northeast corner of S. 88<sup>th</sup> Street and Mills Civic Parkway. The applicant proposes to subdivide the property into 1 lot for multi-family development, 7 lots for single family development, and 1 street lot to be dedicated to the city. Additionally, the applicant requests approval of a Site Plan to allow the construction of 236 dwellings within 6, 8, 10 & 12-unit, attached, multi-family buildings and associated site improvements.

#### **Staff Review & Comment:**

- Financial Impact: There is no City funding of this project; however, there is staff time for processing of development application and inspections during construction.
- History: In May of 2022, the land use designation of this property was changed from Office (OF) to Medium Density Residential (MD) to allow for the proposed development. Also, the Silverwood Planned Unit Development, where this property is located, was amended to specify development parameters for the proposed development. In October of 2022, a preliminary plat and site plan were approved for the development of single family detached and bi-attached homes on the site. That proposed development did not move forward. On September 5, 2023, the City Council approved an amendment to the Silverwood Planned Unit Development Ordinance to accommodate the change in development from single family detached and bi-attached homes to this 6, 8, 10 & 12-unit multi-family buildings as currently proposed.

#### Key Development Aspects:

- 1. <u>Building Types</u>: This development will consist of five 6-plex buildings, six 8-plex buildings, eleven 10-plex buildings, and four 12-plex buildings for a total of 236 dwelling units. Based on 236 total dwelling units (as proposed), there will be 12 dwelling units per acre within Lot 1 which is the number of dwelling units allowed per acre within the Medium Density Residential zoning district. All dwellings within Lot 1 will be rental homes. Attached garages will be provided for all the units.
- <u>Buffers</u>: A minimum thirty-foot (30') buffer is provided along all public streets adjacent to this
  development. For that portion of the Coachlight Drive buffer which extends from the west
  property boundary to twenty-five feet (25') past the easternmost wall of the east dwelling
  structure, a maximum six foot (6') high opaque fence shall be installed at the top of the berm.
  - The property to the northwest of the subject property is still zoned Office (OF), therefore since the subject property initiated the change from Office to Residential Medium Density (RM-12), a minimum 30' landscape buffer is required between the two properties. Due to limited space for a buffer, the applicant requested that property owner (Scenic Holdings, LLC, dba Scenic Development) waive the buffer requirement along their shared property line due to their anticipated use of the property for a memory care facility, which would also require RM zoning.

- Scenic Holdings, LLC has provided written documentation agreeing to a waiver of the buffer requirement. Staff recommends a condition of approval that the City Council grant a waiver of the buffer requirement along this shared property line.
- 3. <u>Perimeter Setbacks</u>: According to the Silverwood PUD Ordinance that was just amended, primary and accessory structures shall be setback a minimum of twenty-five feet (25') from the perimeter development boundary if sidewalks are constructed on both sides of the internal private streets within the parcel. Such sidewalks shall be located a minimum of five feet (5') from the back of curb of the private street. If sidewalks are constructed on only one side of the private street, as described above, the primary and accessory structure setback shall be a minimum of thirty feet (30'). Sidewalks are proposed to be constructed on both sides of the private streets within this development with a 30' perimeter setback.
  - The above perimeter setback reductions are enabled within the PUD; however, City staff will also be proposing a City Code amendment in the near future to provide the same provisions across the city and address issues with compliance with code provisions regarding pedestrian pathways citywide. (See 'sidewalk' discussion in Development & Planning Subcommittee bullet below.)
- 4. <u>Outdoor spaces:</u> The original concept for this development included a 10' X 15' fenced in backyard for each unit proposed. The new concept does not include fenced backyards, so the PUD Ordinance was amended to require a minimum 40 square foot porch, patio, deck or balcony with a minimum usable dimension of 6' deep in either direction within at least 80% of the dwelling units. For those units that do not have outdoor use areas as part of the dwelling unit, outdoor area will be provided on site as part of the common outdoor area for the clubhouse.
- 5. <u>Parkland Dedication</u>: Based on the number of dwelling units proposed, this property is required to provide 2.51 acres of parkland and greenway. The applicant will be providing on site open space to fulfill a portion of this requirement. To fulfill the remainder of the requirement, the applicant will purchase, install and construct onsite improvements including a vinyl pergola, outdoor fireplace, grilling station, outdoor patio with furniture, multi-use court, sidewalks, trails, benches and bike racks. The Parkland Dedication Agreement with specifics about these actions and fulfilling the parkland dedication requirements is proposed to be approved by the City Council with this preliminary plat/site plan review. The signed and executed Parkland Dedication Agreement shall be signed by the applicant and approved by the City Council prior to any building permit being issued for the site.
- <u>Traffic Impact Study Findings</u>: A traffic analysis for the original Comprehensive Plan Amendment and Rezoning was completed in April 2022 and a traffic analysis for the original site plan was completed in August 2022. A traffic analysis for the revised site plan was completed in July 2023. Key findings of the July 2023 study are summarized below.
  - The proposed development is expected to generate slightly more traffic than what was planned but less traffic than what was estimated prior to the August 2022 traffic analysis. The previously planned full build roadway geometry and recommended triggers for future improvements, as detailed in the August 2022 traffic study, remain adequate for the study area. With the planned future improvements, all major intersections are anticipated to have adequate capacity to accommodate the proposed land use.
  - The intersection of S. 85th Street & Coachlight Drive currently operates with 2-way stop control, with Coachlight Drive operating as the designated thru street. With S. 85th Street being continued to the south to serve the proposed site and intersect with Mills Civic Parkway; traffic patterns are expected to shift, and additional north/south traffic will be generated through the intersection. As a result of the shifting traffic patterns and with the two streets functioning as two residential neighborhood collector streets of similar design, traffic volumes, and anticipated operating characteristics, the intersection is recommended to have all-way

stop control. This would also help control vehicle/pedestrian conflicts, as additional pedestrian activity is expected between the proposed development and Huston Ridge Park to the northeast of the intersection. As the area continues to develop, modifying the intersection from an all-way stop to a mini roundabout may be considered in the future to further improve the operation of the intersection. These changes are due in part, but not entirely, to traffic generated by the proposed site.

- <u>Developer Responsibilities</u>: In conjunction with site development or platting of the lots, whichever occurs first, the developer will be responsible for construction and/or installation of all required public and private infrastructure improvements necessary to support development. As a part of this development, S. 85<sup>th</sup> Street will be extended from its existing terminus south to Mills Civic Parkway.
- <u>Development & Planning Subcommittee</u>: At the June 19, 2023, Development & Planning City Council Subcommittee meeting this project was discussed regarding sidewalks along private streets and regarding the types of housing units now being proposed.
  - Sidewalks: In reviewing projects for multi-family developments, staff is running into issues with compliance with code provisions regarding pedestrian pathways. When the streets are private, sometimes a sidewalk is not constructed at all since code specifically says sidewalks are required along public streets but does not mention along private streets. With private streets, the sidewalks are being located immediately adjacent to rolled curbs, with no protection for the pedestrians which staff cannot say meets the code intent to have 'adequate physical separation of vehicles from pedestrians'. When staff requests that the sidewalks be moved back from the curb edge, we are told that they cannot do so for a variety of reasons, such as, no room within the site, it will require a complete redesign, loss of units, project won't be feasible, etc. The Picket Fence development and a newly proposed High Point development were provided as examples. Staff suggested a code amendment to require sidewalks to be a minimum of five feet (5') from the back of curb along private streets and corresponding code amendments to allow a reduction in the required buffer width and perimeter setback to accommodate the additional land required for sidewalks on one or both sides of a private street. These corresponding reductions provide the necessary room to accommodate pedestrian pathways setback from the curb edge without impacting the number of units a developer otherwise would be able to implement within a site. Subcommittee Members were in support of reducing the perimeter setback to thirty feet (30') if a sidewalk is constructed on one side of the private street and reduce both the perimeter setback and buffer width to twenty-five feet (25') if sidewalks are constructed on both sides but then require additional vegetation within the buffer. The proposed changes will be brought forward to the Planning & Zoning Commission and City Council at a later date.
  - Housing Building Types: Council member Hudson indicated that he had heard from residents who live in the single-family homes across the street (Coachlight Dr.) that they have concerns with the proposed development being rentals. He noted his own concerns with having more dense development that may be viewed as out of context to the existing single-family homes. Staff noted that the proposed has more units than the original (236 versus 196) but has a better site layout, especially for emergency response purposes; the proposal is an allowed use that falls within the allowed density for the district; and that the city does not have a means to control whether a project is rental or owner-occupied. The developer has been made aware of the context concerns and has been reminded of the agreement that the original layout oriented the front of the homes to the street to appear and feel more like the single-family to the north. The developer has modified the units along Coachlight Dr. and the southern end of S. 85th Street to be 6-plex buildings which complies with the transitional buffering requirements of city code. This site plan includes a buffer

along Coachlight Dr. with a three foot (3') berm and landscaping along with a six feet (6') opaque fence to break up views of the buildings from the properties to the north.

Council member Hudson asked if there had been a zoning change on this property. Staff responded that it was previously zoned office which was most likely due to market conditions at the time. Previous inquiries have been for high-density apartment development so a change to medium density was welcomed. Council member McKinney echoed being mindful of what was originally presented and would be in favor of additional buffering/vegetation along the north side of the development.

- Plat Validity: Per City Code, the associated Final Plat must be presented to the City Council for approval within 12 months of the approval of this Preliminary Plat if surety is being posted for Public Improvements; or, within 18 months if Public Improvements are being constructed prior to Final Plat consideration. It is the responsibility of the developer to be aware of these deadlines and request an extension of the Preliminary Plat approval prior to the Preliminary Plat expiration date.
- <u>Vesting of Entitlement</u>: Per City Code, entitlement (approval to construct or implement) shall remain
  in effect so long as substantial site work has progressed beyond grading and completion of
  structural foundations and twenty-five percent (25%) of the total building area has occurred above
  grade within twenty-four (24) months of the effective date of the approval, unless a greater time
  period is authorized at time of the original entitlement, or by approval of an extension of the original
  entitlement. It is the responsibility of the developer to be aware of this deadline and request an
  extension of the approval prior to the expiration date.

Outstanding Issues: There are no outstanding issues.

Planning and Zoning Commission Action:
Date: September 11, 2023

Vote:

Recommendation:

**Recommendation:** Approve the Preliminary Plat and Site Plan request, subject to the applicant meeting all City Code requirements, and the following conditions of approval:

- 1. The City Council granting a waiver of a thirty foot (30') landscape buffer adjacent to the adjoining property at the northwest corner of the applicant's property.
- 2. The applicant agreeing that no building permit shall be issued for any building on the Picket Fence property until the Parkland Dedication Agreement has been signed by the applicant.

### Lead Staff Member: Brian Portz

**Approval Meeting Dates:** 

Planning and Zoning Commission	September 11, 2023
City Council	

## **Staff Report Reviews:**

Planning & Zoning Commission	<ul><li>□ Development Coordinator (or)</li><li>⊠ Director</li></ul>	⊠ Legal Department
City Council	☐ Director	□ Legal Department
	□ Appropriations/Finance	☐ Agenda Acceptance

Publications (if applicable)

4	T distributions (ii applicable)		
	Published	Des Moines Register	
I	ln:	Community Section	
	Date(s) Published	n/a	
	Date(s) of Mailed Notices	n/a	

Council Subcommittee Review (if applicable)

Subcommittee	Development & Planning		
Date Reviewed	6/19/23		
Recommendation	⊠ Yes	□ No	□ Split

# **Location Map**



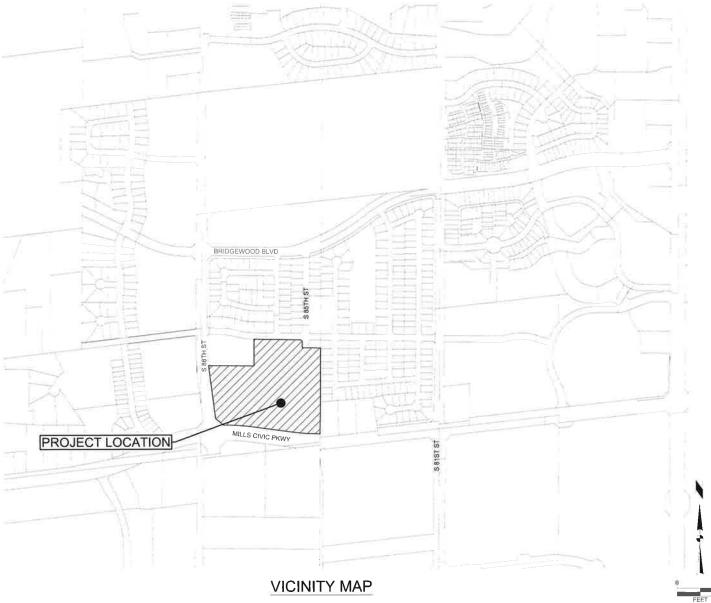
# PRELIMINARY PLAT / SITE PLAN

**FOR** 

# PLANS INCLUDED ARE FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSES ONLY – APPROVED PLANS ON FILE WITH THE CITY

# **PICKET FENCE COMMUNITIES 2023**

**MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT** CITY OF WEST DES MOINES, DALLAS COUNTY, IOWA

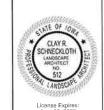


### **INDEX OF SHEETS**

C601-C609

TITLE SHEET PROJECT INFORMATION C101 SITE DETAILS C102 C103-104 TYPICAL CROSS SECTIONS OVERALL SITE LAYOUT C200 EXISTING CONDITIONS AND DEMOLITION PLAN C201 OVERALL DIMENSION AND UTILITY PLAN C300 C301-309 DIMENSION AND UTILITY PLAN OVERALL STORM SEWER PLAN C400 C401-409 STORM SEWER PLAN GRADING AND EROSION CONTROL PLAN C500 C501-509 DETAILED GRADING PLAN C510-512 RAMP DETAILS OVERALL PLANTING PLAN C600

#### WDM PROJECT # PPSP-006109-2023



PLANTING PLAN

C600-C609

C100-C512

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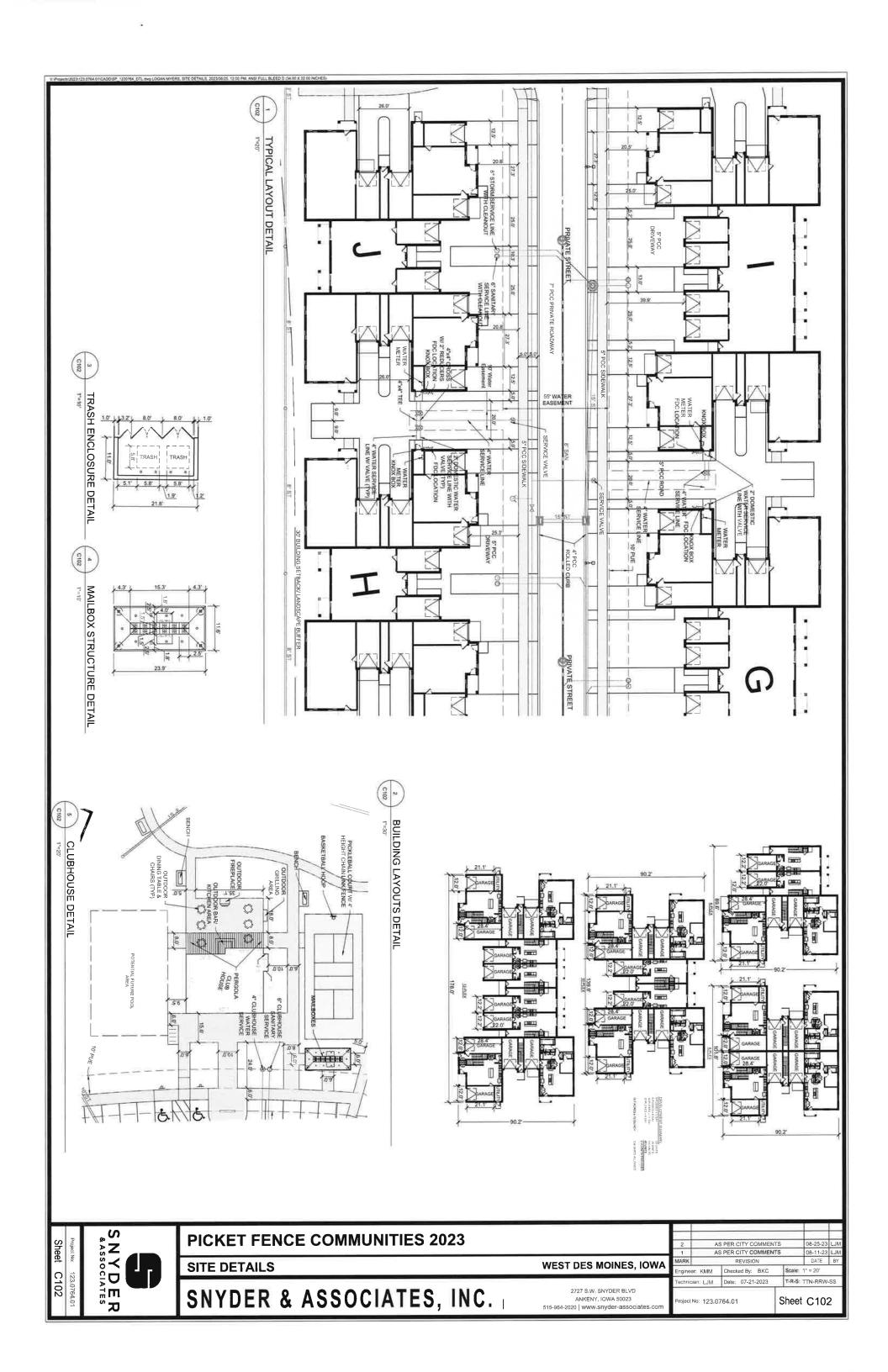
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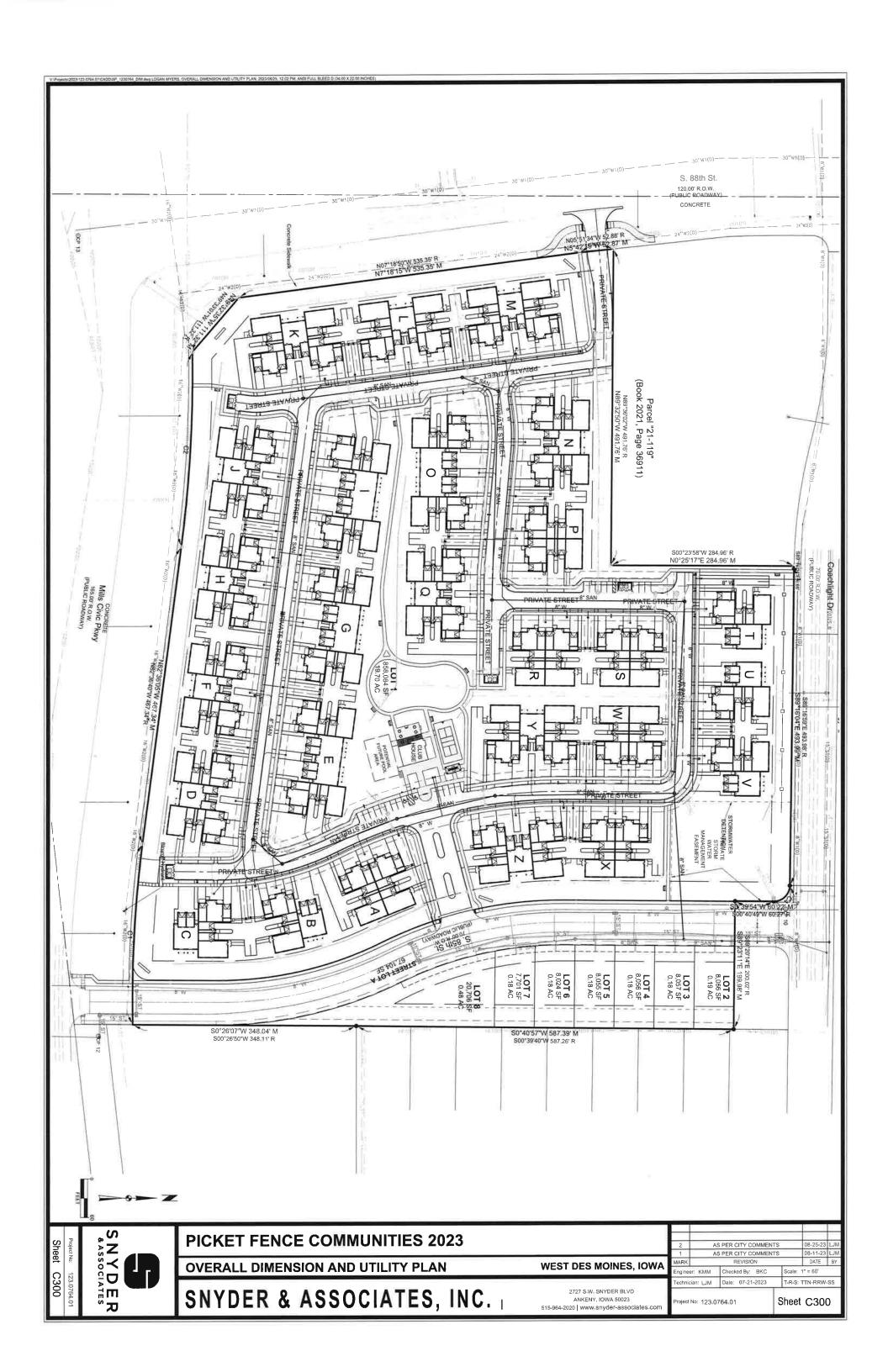
Project No: 123-0764-01 Sheet C100

171 ABERDEEN STREET SUITE 400 CHICAGO, IL 60607 CONTACT: ROBERT SANCHEZ

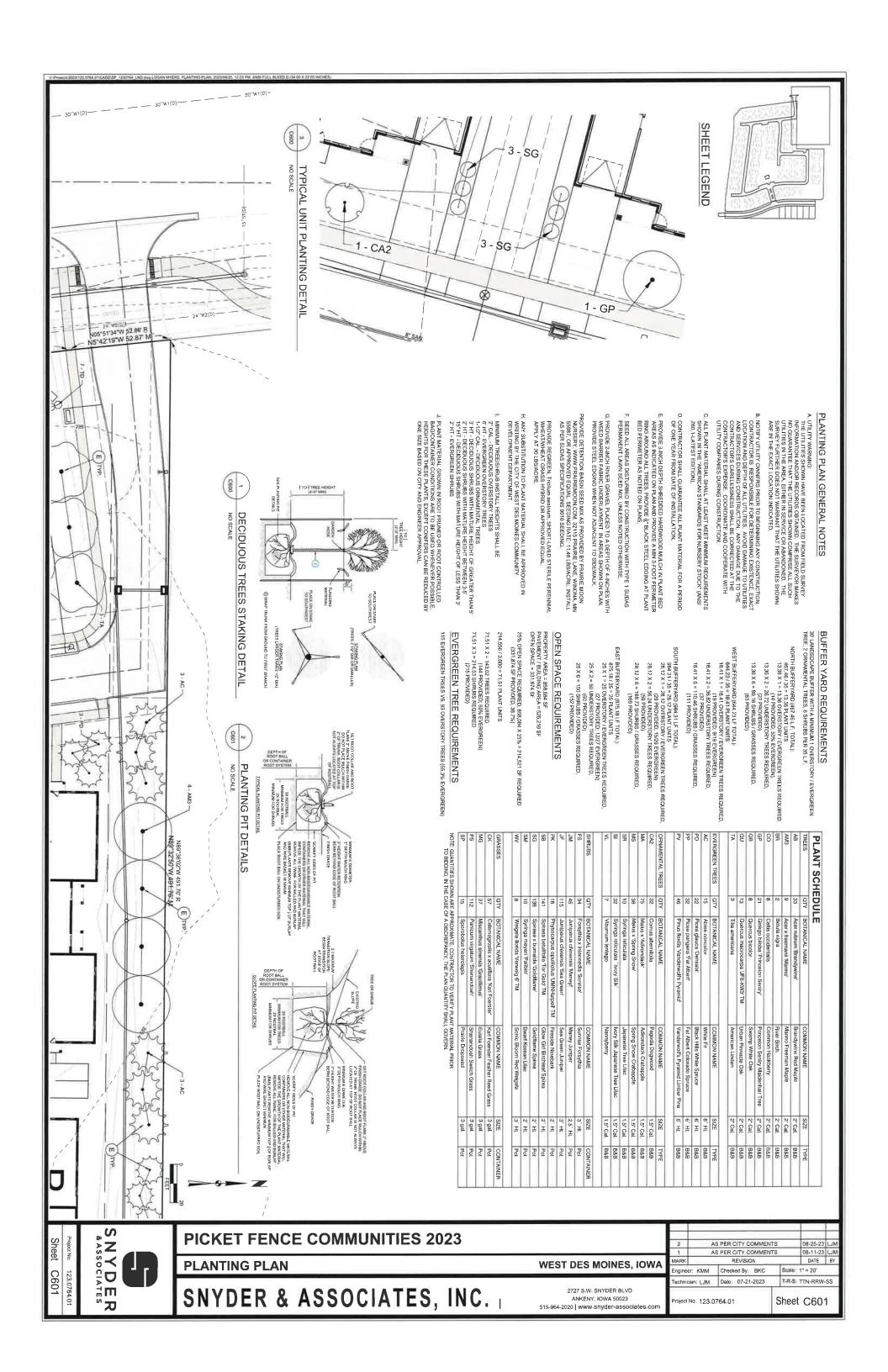
> SNYDER & ASSOCIATES ANKENY, IOWA 50023 CONTACT: KOREY MARSH

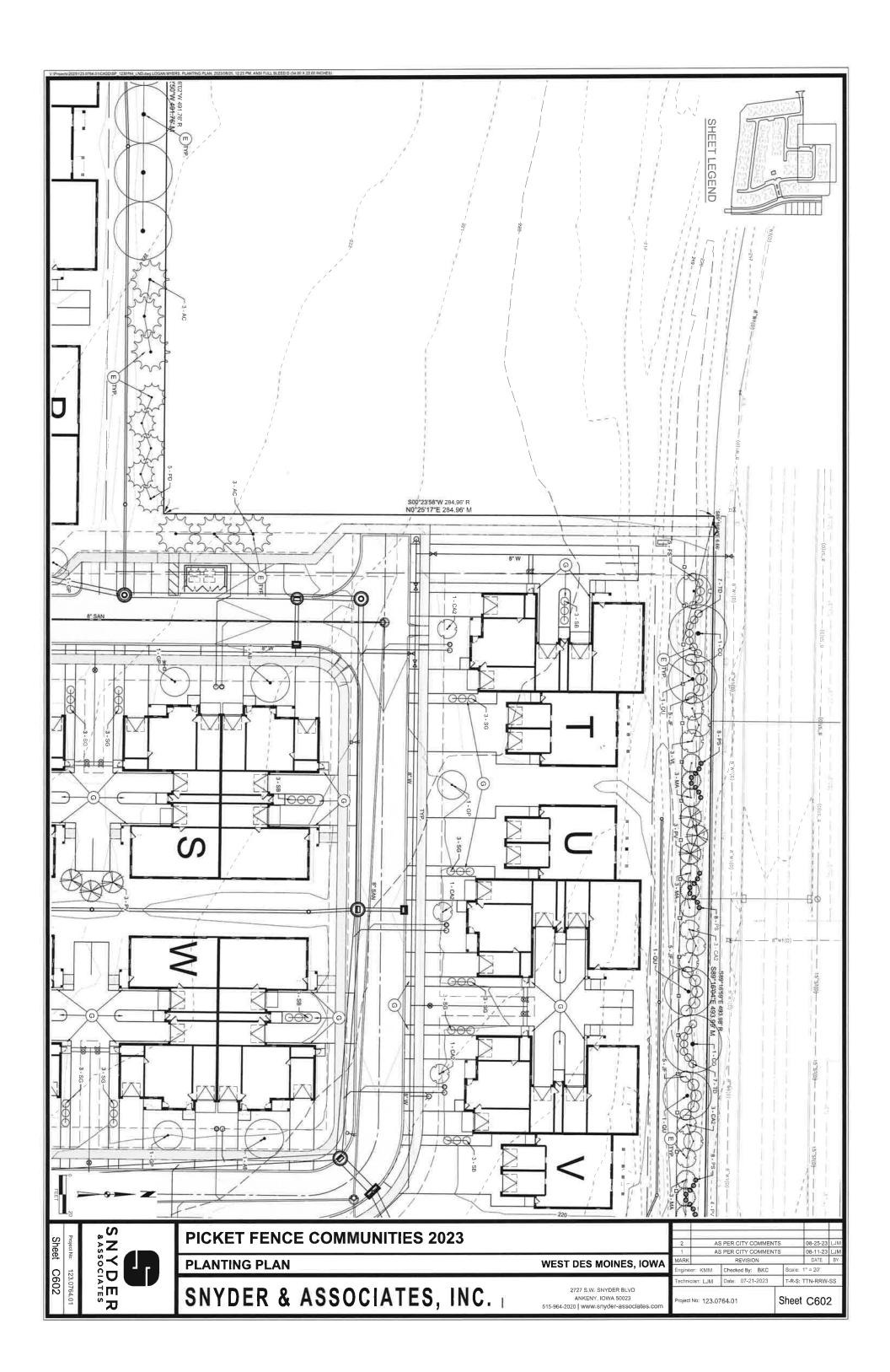
OWNER/APPLICANT

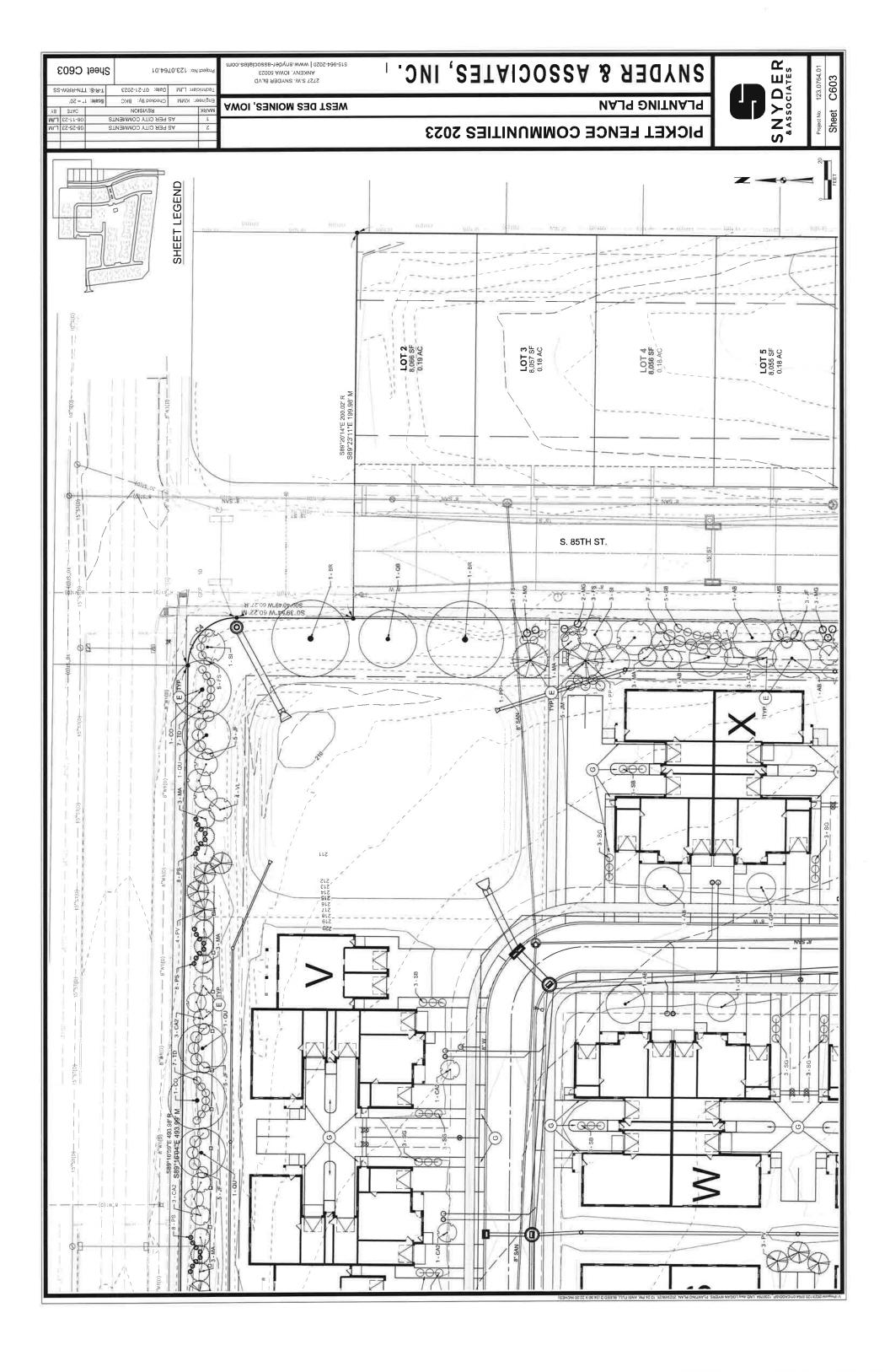


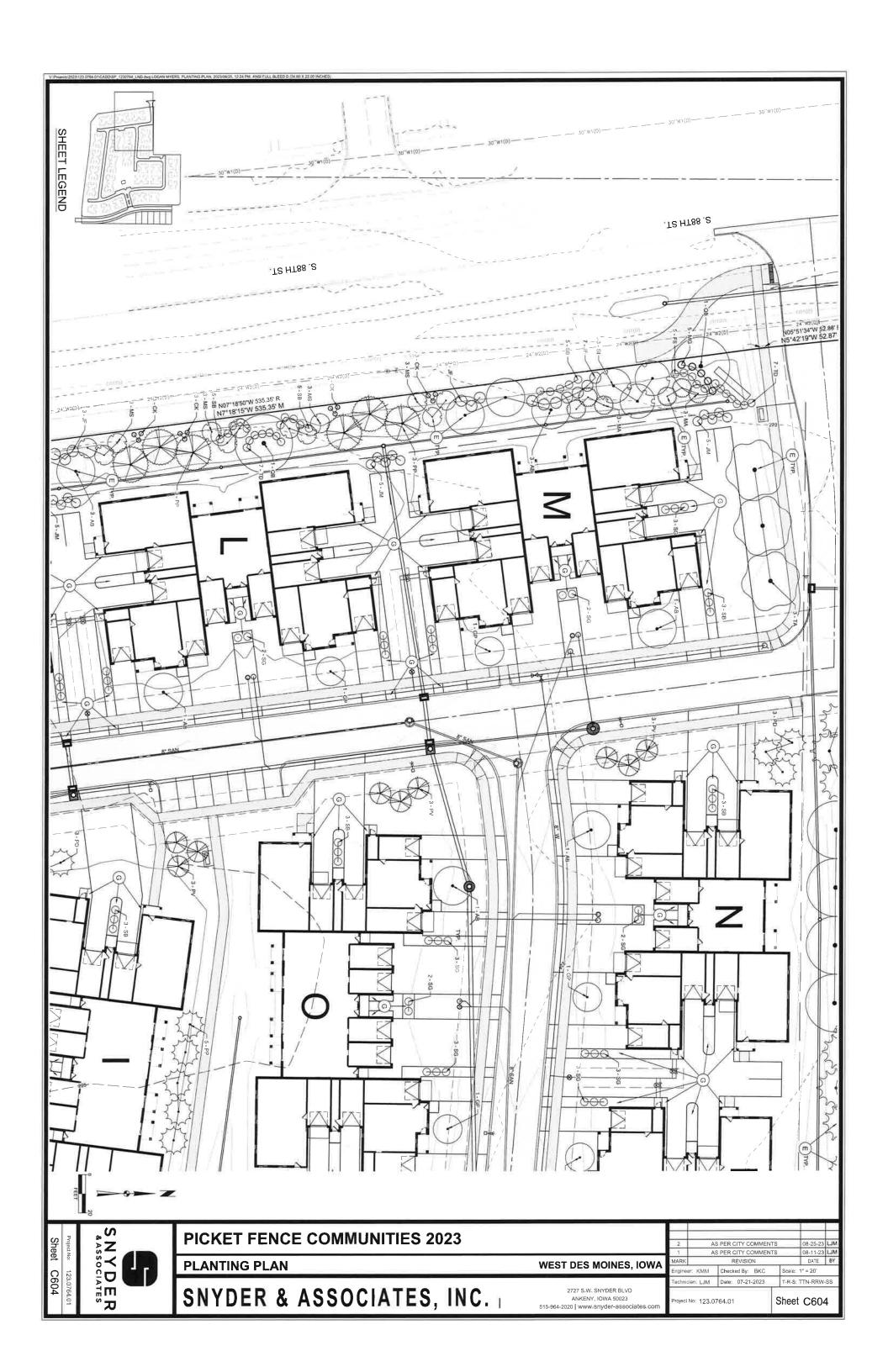


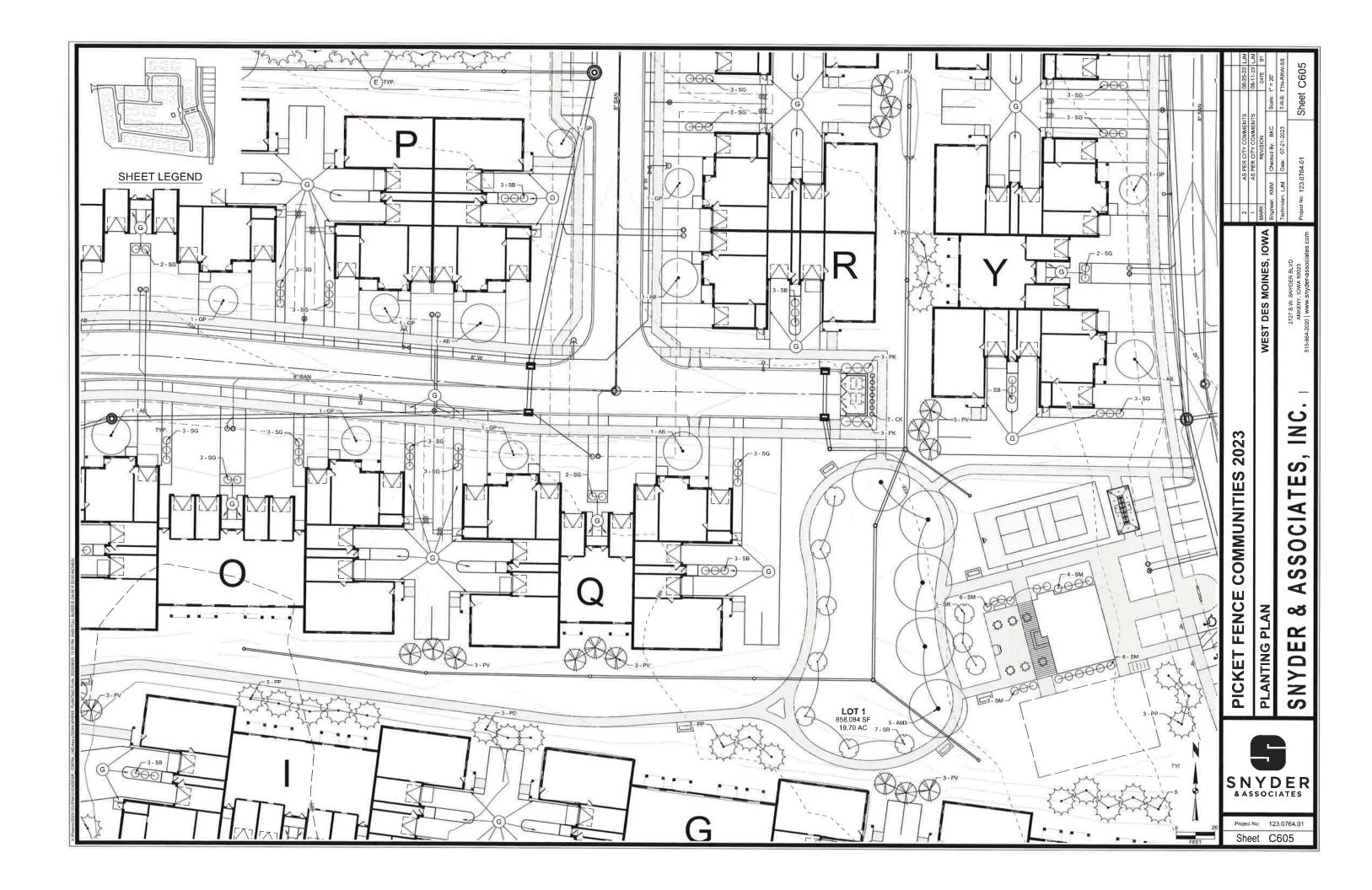


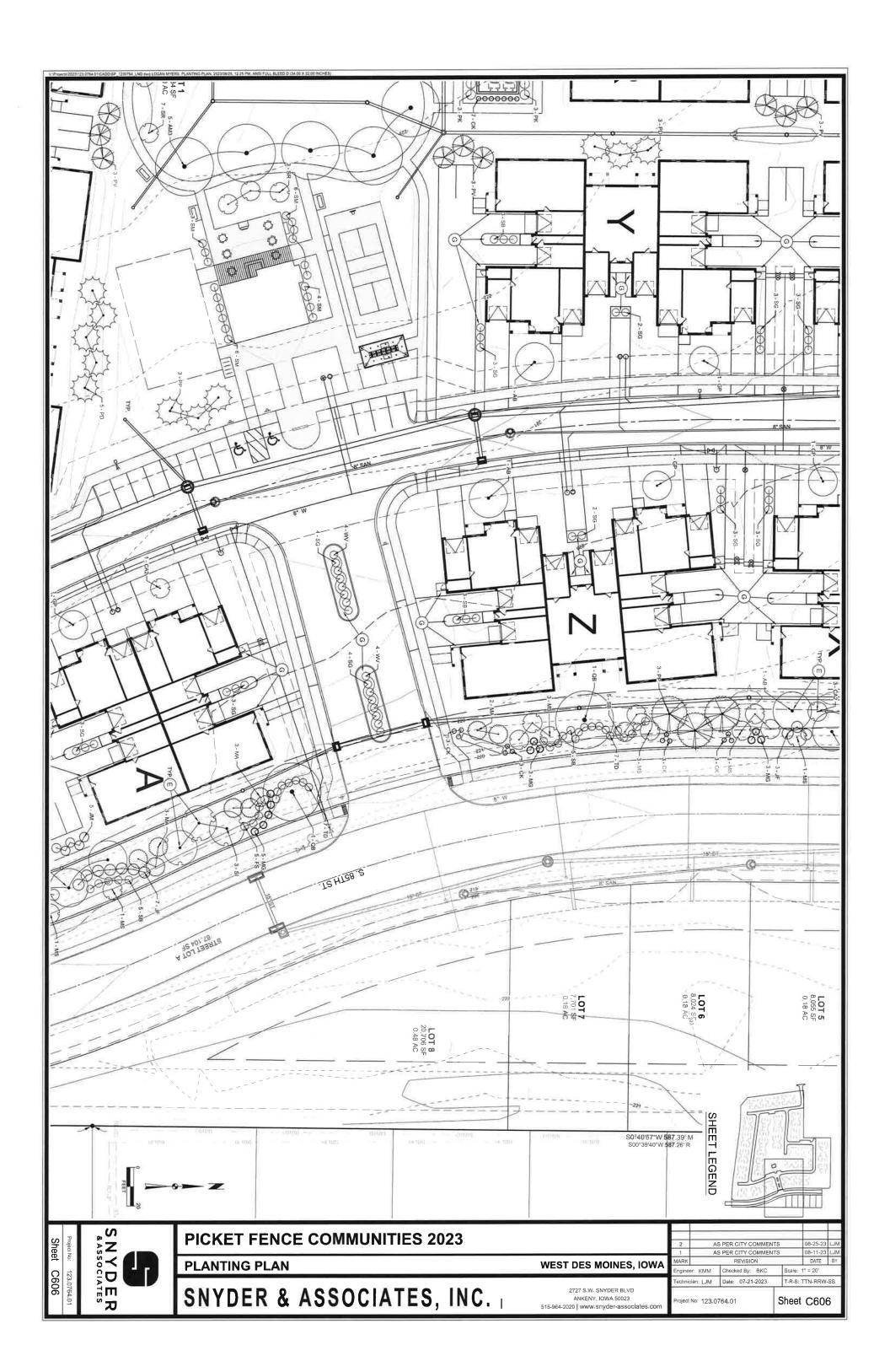


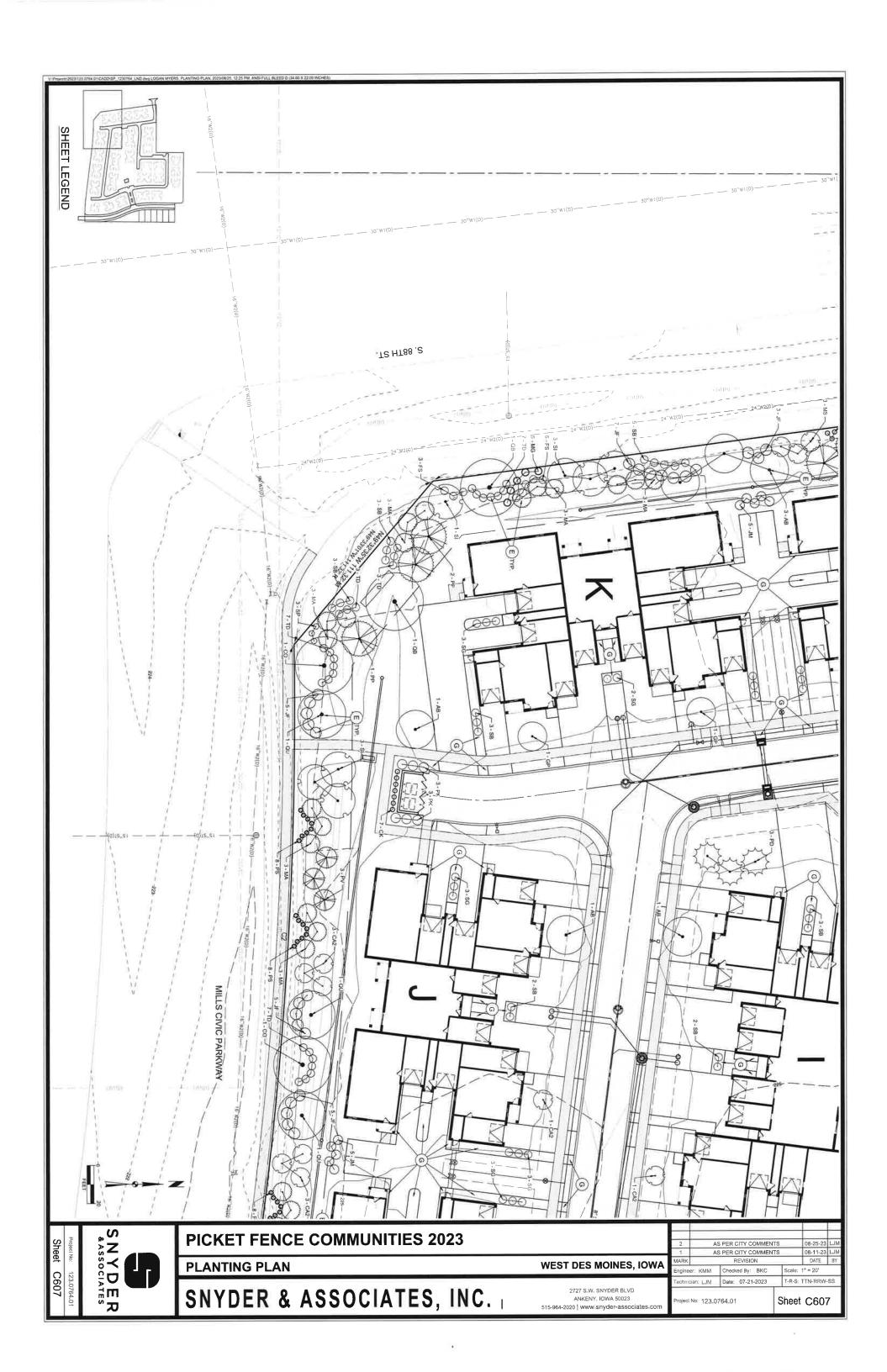




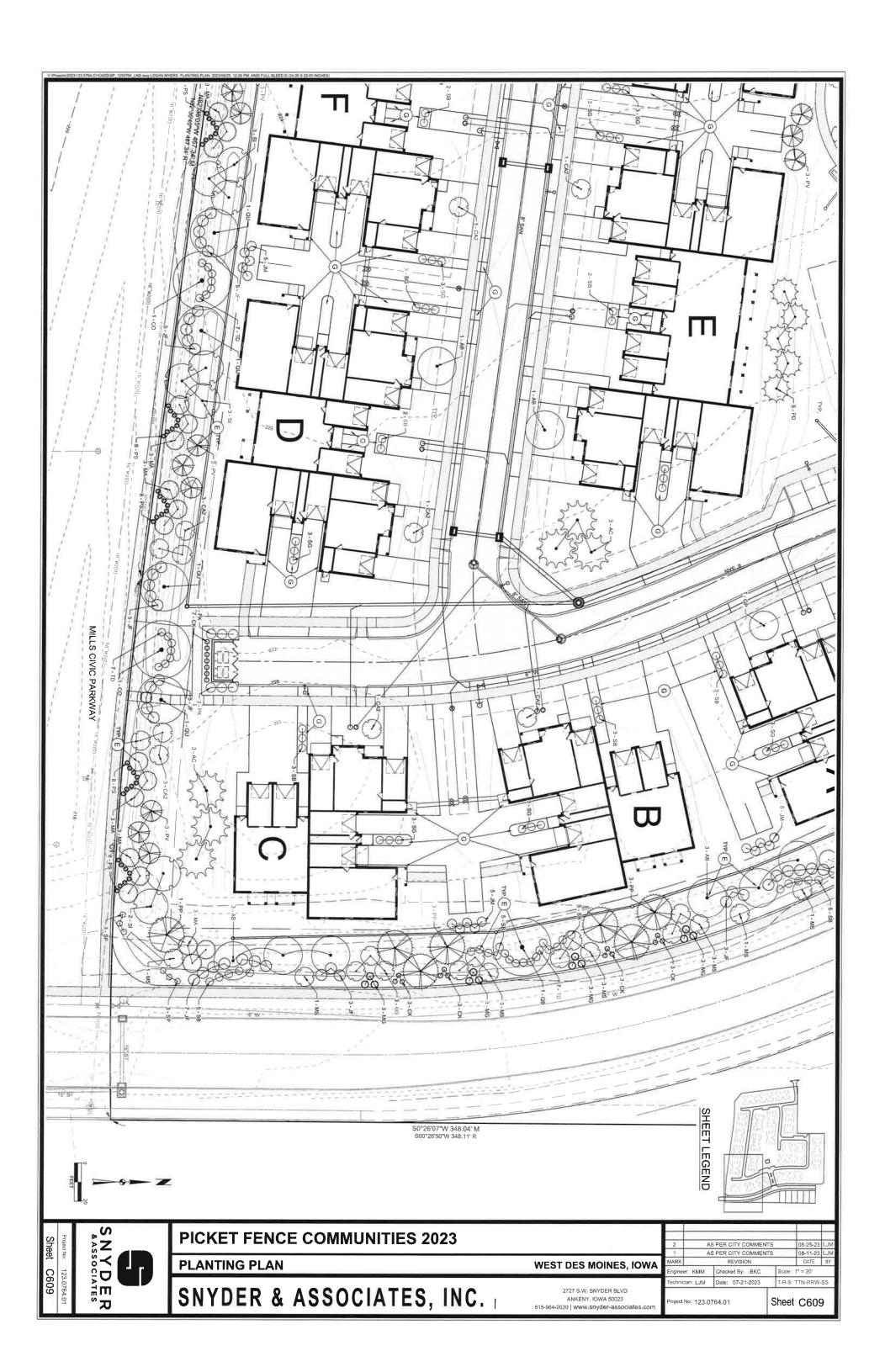
















MOIRE BLACK



CONDENSERS & ELECTRICAL METERS TO BE SCREENED FROM PUBLIC VIEW WITH LANDSCAPE PLANTINGS OF PREDOMINATELY EVERGREEN MATERIALS

AT ADJACENT PUBLIC THOROUGHFARES (TYPICAL)

ARCTIC WHITE

BOOTHBAY BLUE





RIGHT SIDE ELEVATION





BACK ELEVATION



STE. GEN DIMENSIONAL





MOIRE BLACK





ARCTIC WHITE

BOOTHBAY BLUE





CONDENSERS & ELECTRICAL METERS TO BE SCREENED FROM PUBLIC VIEW WITH LANDSCAPE PLANTINGS OF PREDOMINATELY EVERGREEN MATERIALS AT ADJACENT PUBLIC THOROUGHFARES (TYPICAL)

RIGHT SIDE ELEVATION

LEFT SIDE ELEVATION



STE. GEN DIMENSIONAL



BACK ELEVATION





MOIRE BLACK









HARDIE PANEL SELECT CEDARMILL BOARD & BATTEN
PREFINISHED SIDING - NIGHT GRAY

PRO - MAX DEF

MOIRE BLACK

CERTAINTEED LANDMARK

HARDIE PLANK - SELECT CEDARMILL PREFINISHED LAP SIDING - ARCTIC WHITE

EDWARD'S STONE
STE. GEN DIMENSIONAL
THIN NATURAL STONE



RIGHT SIDE ELEVATION





STE. GEN DIMENSIONAL



BACK ELEVATION





HARDIE PANEL
SELECT CEDARMILL
BOARD & BATTEN
PREFINISHED
SIDING - MOUNTAIN SAGE

CERTAINTEED LANDMARK PRO-MAX DEF MOIRE BLACK

HARDIE PLANK - SELECT CEDARMILL PREFINISHED LAP SIDING - ARCTIC WHITE

EDWARD'S STONE
STE, GEN DIMENSIONAL
THIN NATURAL STONE



MOIRE BLACK





MOUNTAIN SAGE





FRONT ELEVATION

METERS TO BE SCREENED FROM PUBLIC VIEW WITH LANDSCAPE PLANTINGS OF PREDOMINATELY EVERGREEN MATERIALS AT ADJACENT PUBLIC THOROUGHFARES (TYPICAL)

CONDENSERS & ELECTRICAL

RIGHT SIDE ELEVATION

LEFT SIDE ELEVATION





STE. GEN DIMENSIONAL

BACK ELEVATION







MOIRE BLACK





MOUNTAIN SAGE



RIGHT SIDE ELEVATION

LEFT SIDE ELEVATION

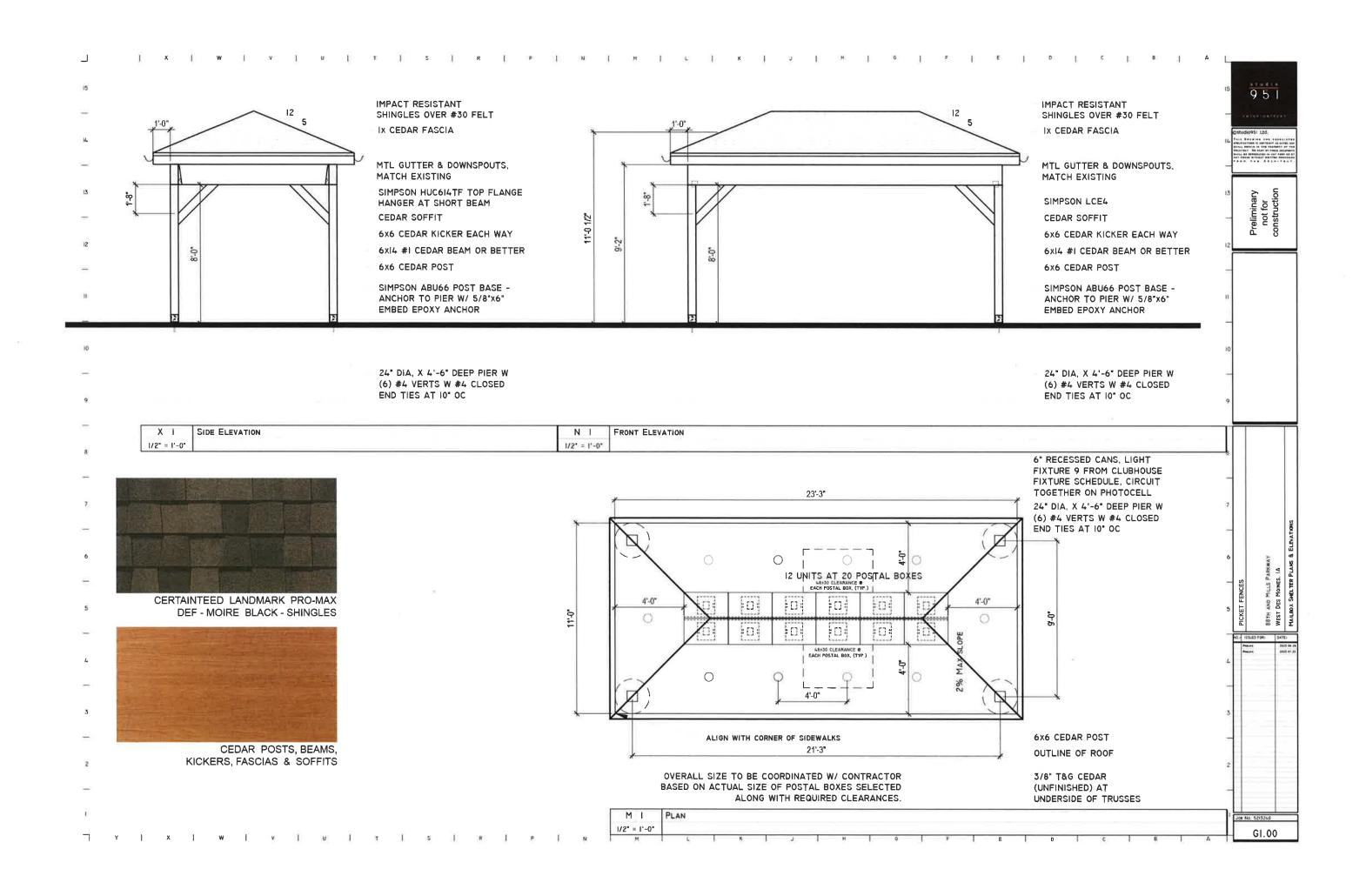


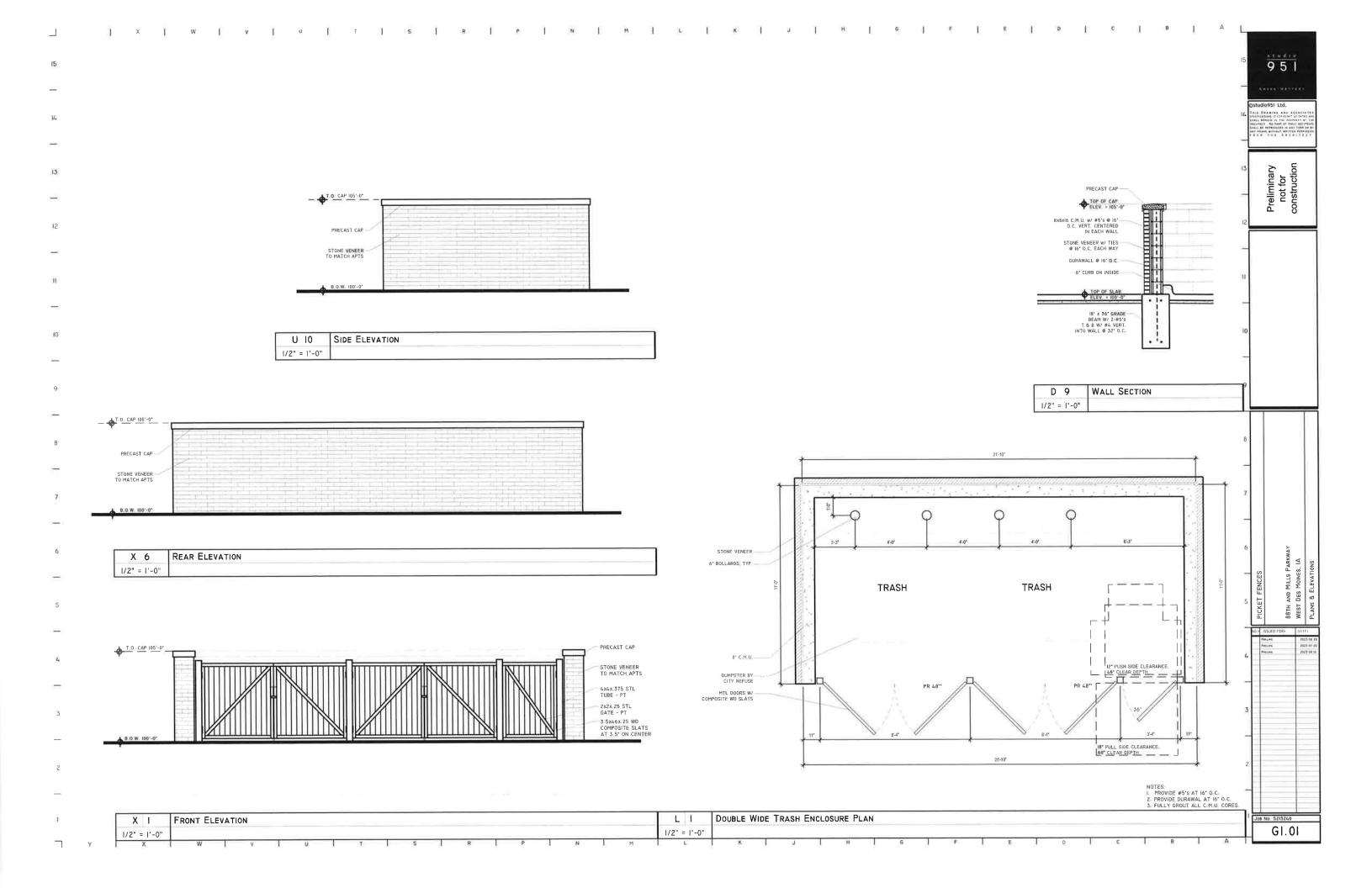
BACK ELEVATION



STE. GEN DIMENSIONAL

**CLUBHOUSE** PICKET FENCES 88TH & MILLS





# A RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION NO. PZC-23-044

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of Title 9, Zoning and Title 10, Subdivision Regulations of the West Des Moines Municipal Code, the applicant and property owner, PFC WDM, LLC, requests approval of a Preliminary Plat for the purpose of subdividing that approximately 22.8-acre property located at the northeast corner of S. 88<sup>th</sup> Street and Mills Civic Parkway as depicted on the location map included in the staff report. The applicant proposes the creation of one (1) lot for multi-family development, and 7 lots for single family development; and

WHEREAS, additionally, pursuant to the provisions of Title 9, Zoning of the West Des Moines Municipal Code, the applicant and property owner, PFC WDM, LLC, requests approval of the Site Plan for the approximately 19.7-acre property located at the northeast corner of S. 88<sup>th</sup> Street and Mills Civic Parkway for the purpose of constructing five 6-plex buildings, six 8-plex buildings, eleven 10-plex buildings, and four 12-plex buildings for a total of 236 dwelling units and associated site improvements; and

WHEREAS, the Preliminary Plat complies with Iowa Code Chapters 354 and 414, the Comprehensive Plan and City Code; and

**WHEREAS,** the Site Plan complies with the findings stated in the provisions of Title 9, Chapter 1, the Comprehensive Plan and City Code.

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Planning and Zoning Commission of the City of West Des Moines recommends the City Council approve the Preliminary Plat and Site Plan (PPSP-006109-2023), subject to compliance with all the conditions of approval as stated in the staff report, including conditions added at the meeting, and attached hereto as Exhibit "A", if applicable.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on September 11, 2023.

3	Andrew Conlin, Chair Planning and Zoning Commission
	resolution was duly adopted by the Planning and Zoning ines, lowa, at a regular meeting on <u>September 11, 2023</u> , by the
AYES:	
NAYS:	
ABSTENTIONS:	
ABSENT:	
ATTEST:	
Recording Secretary	